

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) In a system that is comprised of an access device, a programmable client system and a provider, all of which are logically interconnectable through a network such as the Internet, wherein the client system stores program guide data that is used by a user to schedule events, a method for remotely scheduling events at the client system with an access device, comprising steps for:

using an access device that is remotely located from the programmable client system to access and log on an access device service;

in response to logging on the access device service, authenticating a user of the remotely located access device with an authentication service which is associated with the access device service;

subsequent to authenticating the user with the authentication service, accessing the client system through the network with the remotely located access device, wherein the client system has a bi-directional connection with the network, and wherein prior to accessing the client system through the network, causing the client system to establish the bi-directional connection by performing the following:

sending instructions to a broadcast source that is connected to the client system through a unidirectional connection inasmuch as the broadcast source only transmits programming information to the client system without receiving data from the client system, wherein the broadcast source transmits the instructions to the client system, and wherein the instructions cause the client system to open a bi-directional connection with the network;

automatically authenticating the user of the remotely located access device to the client system by providing authentication information previously issued to the user from the authentication service, and in response to the user having been previously authenticated by the authentication service through the access device service;

once the user of the remotely located access device is authenticated to the client system, retrieving current program guide data from the client system with the remotely located access

device, wherein the current program guide data is displayed on the remotely located access device;

selecting an event using the retrieved program guide data displayed at the remotely located access device;

sending the selected event to the client system; and

scheduling the selected event at the client system.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the step for authenticating a user of the remotely located access device further comprises a step for authenticating the user at the client system with an authentication service.

4. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the step for retrieving the current program guide data from the client system further comprises steps for:

displaying a schedule of programming content that is scheduled to be sent to the client system on the access device; and

displaying previously scheduled events on the access device.

5. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the step for selecting an event at the remotely located access device further comprises a step for selecting one or more programs identified in the current program guide data to be associated with an event.

6. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the step for selecting an event at the remotely located access device further comprises a step for unselecting one or more of the programs previously selected and associated with an event, wherein the associated event is removed from the selected programs.

7. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the step for selecting an event at the remotely located access device further comprises one or more of:

a step for setting preferences in the current program guide data;
a step for selecting a record event;
a step for selecting a delete event; and
a step for selecting a lock or unlock event.

8. (Cancelled).

9. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 1, further comprising:

a step for formatting, by the device service, the retrieved current program guide data for the specific access device.

10. (Previously Presented) A computer program product for implementing a method for remotely scheduling events at the client system with an access device, comprising:

a computer readable medium for carrying computer executable instructions for implementing the method recited in claim 1.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A computer program product as defined in claim ~~11~~10, wherein the step for authenticating a user of the remotely located access device further comprises a step for authenticating the user at the client system with an authentication service.

13. (Previously Presented) A computer program product as defined in claim 10, wherein the step for retrieving the current program guide data from the client system further comprises steps for:

displaying a schedule of programming content that is scheduled to be sent to the client system on the access device; and

displaying previously scheduled events on the access device.

14. (Previously Presented) A computer program product as defined in claim 10, wherein the step for selecting an event at the remotely located access device further comprises a step for selecting one or more programs identified in the current program guide data to be associated with an event.

15. (Previously Presented) A computer program product as defined in claim 10, wherein the step for selecting an event at the remotely located access device further comprises a step for unselecting one or more of the programs previously selected and associated with an event, wherein the associated event is removed from the selected programs.

16. (Previously Presented) A computer program product as defined in claim 10, wherein the step for selecting an event at the remotely located access device further comprises one or more of:

- a step for setting preferences in the current program guide data;
- a step for selecting a record event;
- a step for selecting a delete event; and
- a step for selecting a lock or unlock event.

17. (Cancelled).

18. (Previously Presented) A computer program product as defined in claim 10, further comprising:

- a step for formatting, by the device service, the retrieved current program guide data for the specific access device.

19 - 27 (Cancelled).

28. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 1, further including:
connecting the set top box to the network with a connection that is always on line with the network.

29. (Cancelled).

30. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the access device is one of a cell phone, laptop computer, desktop computer, handheld computer, or internet appliance.

31-33. (Cancelled).

34. (Previously Presented) A computer program product, as recited in claim 10, wherein the recited method includes connecting the set top box to the network with a connection that is always on line with the network.

35-36. (Cancelled).

37. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 30, wherein the act of retrieving the current program guide data further comprises an act of automatically formatting the current program guide data retrieved from the set top box at the device service to a format appropriate for display by the cell phone, laptop computer, desktop computer, handheld computer, or internet appliance.

38-42 (Cancelled)

43. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the current program guide data retrieved from the client system further comprises a programming content scheduled to be sent to the set top box from a satellite, wherein the current program guide data includes previously scheduled events.

44. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the step for selecting an event further comprises an act of selecting one or more programs, wherein the programming content of the selected one or more programs will be recorded.

45. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the step for selecting an event further comprises an act of unselecting one or more programs previously selected to be recorded, wherein the unselected one or more programs will not be recorded.

46. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the step for selecting an event further comprises an act of changing the configuration of the current program guide data.

47. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the step for selecting an event further comprises an act of locking or unlocking one or more channels of programming content available to the set top box from the satellite.

48. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the step for selecting an event further comprises an act of deleting previously recorded programming content.

49 (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 9, wherein the step for formatting, by the device service, the retrieved current program guide data for the specific access device comprises formatting the retrieved current program guide for display on a cell phone by formatting the retrieved current program guide as a menu driven configuration suitable for a cell phone.

50 (Previously Presented) A computer program product as defined in claim 18, wherein the step for formatting, by the device service, the retrieved current program guide data for the specific access device comprises formatting the retrieved current program guide for display on a cell phone by formatting the retrieved current program guide as a menu driven configuration suitable for a cell phone.

51. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the client system comprises a set-top box associated with an IP address and through which the access device accesses the set-top box.

52. (Cancelled).

53. (Previously Presented) In a system that is comprised of an access device, a programmable client system and a provider, all of which are logically interconnectable through a network such as the Internet, wherein the client system stores program guide data that is used by a user to schedule events, a method for remotely scheduling events at the client system with an access device, comprising:

- sending instructions to a broadcast source that is connected to the client system through a connection that is unidirectional inasmuch as the broadcast source only transmits programming information to the client system without receiving data from the client system, wherein the broadcast source transmits the instructions to the client system, and wherein the instructions cause the client system to open a bi-directional connection with the network;

- accessing the client system through the network with the remotely located access device through the bi-directional connection with the network;

- retrieving current program guide data from the client system with the remotely located access device, wherein the current program guide data is displayed on the remotely located access device;

- selecting an event using the retrieved program guide data displayed at the remotely located access device;

- sending the selected event to the client system; and

- scheduling the selected event at the client system.

54. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 53, wherein the method includes authenticating a user of the remotely located access device to the client system prior to retrieving the program guide data.

55. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 53, wherein the instructions are sent from the broadcast source within conditional access data that is broadcast to the client system.